

Appl. No. 10/707,512
Amtd. dated October 15, 2004
Reply to Office action of September 01, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Objection to the specification:

The title of the invention has been amended to more clearly indicate the invention to
5 which the claims are directed. Acceptance of the amended title is requested.

2. Rejection of claims 1 and 4 under 35 USC 102(b):

To overcome the rejection of claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to include the
limitations previously found in original claim 2, and claim 2 has been cancelled. Claim 2 had
10 previously been indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but
otherwise being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Similarly, to overcome the rejection of claim 4, claim 4 has been amended to include
the limitations previously found in original claim 5, and claim 5 has been cancelled. Claim 5
15 had previously been indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim,
but otherwise being allowable if rewritten in independent form. In light of the above
amendments, reconsideration of currently claims 1 and 4 is respectfully requested.

3. Rejection of claims 6-12 under 35 USC 103(a):

20 To overcome the rejection of claim 6, claim 6 has been amended to include the
limitations previously found in original claim 8, and claim 8 has been cancelled. Claim 8 had
previously been indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but
otherwise being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 7 and 9-12 are dependent
on claim 6, and should be allowed if claim 6 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 6-7 and

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9-12 is respectfully requested.

4. Introduction to new claims 13 and 14:

5 New claim 13 is written to include all of the limitations previously found in original claims 1 and 3. Claim 3 had previously been indicated as objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but otherwise being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claim 14 is a duplicate of original claim 2. Acceptance of new claims 13 and 14 is requested.

10 No new matter has been added through the new claims added or through any of the amendments made to existing claims. Since the claims are all in condition for allowance, applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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